



General Assembly

January Session, 2017

Committee Bill No. 6304

LCO No. 5357



Referred to Committee on ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY

Introduced by:
(ET)

AN ACT REQUIRING A STUDY OF THE VIABILITY OF NEW DISTRICT HEATING NETWORKS IN THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2017*) (a) The Commissioner of the
2 Department of Energy and Environmental Protection shall conduct a
3 study regarding the viability of new district heating networks in the
4 state.
- 5 (b) The study conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section
6 shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations for financing
7 new district heating networks in the state.
- 8 (c) Not later than July 1, 2018, the Commissioner of the Department
9 of Energy and Environmental Protection, in accordance with section
10 11-4a of the general statutes, shall report the results of the study
11 conducted pursuant to subsection (a) of this section to the joint
12 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
13 matters relating to energy and technology.
- 14 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 16a-3d of the general statutes is

15 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
16 *October 1, 2017*):

17 (a) On or before October 1, 2016, and every three years thereafter,
18 the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection shall
19 prepare a Comprehensive Energy Strategy. Said strategy shall reflect
20 the legislative findings and policy stated in section 16a-35k and shall
21 incorporate (1) an assessment and plan for all energy needs in the
22 state, including, but not limited to, electricity, heating, cooling, and
23 transportation, (2) the findings of the Integrated Resources Plan, (3) the
24 findings of the plan for energy efficiency adopted pursuant to section
25 16-245m, (4) the findings of the plan for renewable energy adopted
26 pursuant to section 16-245n, and (5) the Energy Assurance Plan
27 developed for the state of Connecticut pursuant to the American
28 Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, P.L. 111-5, or any successor
29 Energy Assurance Plan developed within a reasonable time prior to
30 the preparation of any Comprehensive Energy Strategy. Said strategy
31 shall further include, but not be limited to, (A) an assessment of
32 current energy supplies, demand and costs, (B) identification and
33 evaluation of the factors likely to affect future energy supplies,
34 demand and costs, (C) a statement of progress made toward achieving
35 the goals and milestones set in the preceding Comprehensive Energy
36 Strategy, (D) a statement of energy policies and long-range energy
37 planning objectives and strategies appropriate to achieve, among other
38 things, a sound economy, the least-cost mix of energy supply sources
39 and measures that reduce demand for energy, giving due regard to
40 such factors as consumer price impacts, security and diversity of fuel
41 supplies and energy generating methods, protection of public health
42 and safety, environmental goals and standards, conservation of energy
43 and energy resources and the ability of the state to compete
44 economically, (E) recommendations for administrative and legislative
45 actions to implement such policies, objectives and strategies, (F) an
46 assessment of the potential costs savings and benefits to ratepayers,
47 including, but not limited to, carbon dioxide emissions reductions or
48 voluntary joint ventures to repower some or all of the state's coal-fired

49 and oil-fired generation facilities built before 1990, [and] (G) the
50 benefits, costs, obstacles and solutions related to the expansion and use
51 and availability of natural gas in Connecticut, and (H) beginning with
52 the strategy to be prepared on or before October 1, 2019, and strategies
53 prepared thereafter, a study of the viability of new district heating
54 networks in the state including, but not limited to, recommendations
55 for financing such district heating networks. If the department finds
56 that [such] expansion of the use of natural gas is in the public interest,
57 it shall develop a plan to increase the use and availability of natural
58 gas.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2017	16a-3d(a)

Section 1	July 1, 2017	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2017	16a-3d(a)

Statement of Purpose:

To require the study of the viability of new district heating networks in the state and to require that such a study be included as a component of the Comprehensive Energy Strategy.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

Co-Sponsors: REP. ROSARIO, 128th Dist.; REP. GRESKO, 121st Dist.
REP. SANTIAGO, 130th Dist.; REP. HENNESSY, 127th Dist.
REP. STAFSTROM, 129th Dist.

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